

August Meetings

Dates & Times

Matinee, 2:30 p.m., Wednesday,
August 12, 1981

Evenings, 8:00 p.m., Wednesday and
Thursday, August 12 and 13, 1981

Place

May Treat Morrison Auditorium

Speaker

Robert Holmes

Subject

"In Search of the Blue People"



Gigantic mountains, dry riverbeds, remnant lakes of solid salt, forests, and shifting seas of sand make up the 3,500,000 square miles of the "Sahara" (the Arabic word for dun-color). Every year, in a small corner of western Morocco, the nomadic Blue People of the Sahara (so called from the famed indigo robes that dye the skin blue) gather for the annual May Tan-Tan Moussen festival.

At the August members' meetings Robert Holmes will share his trip to Morocco in the mid-1970's in search of these people and their festival. His photos may be a record of the last festival to take place. Sadly the tradition may die because the border war between Algeria and Morocco has made it impossible for these people to gather together for their annual celebration.

Mr. Holmes, who is a specialist in mountaineering and expedition photography, was official photographer for the British expedition to Mt. Everest in 1975. Your membership card admits you through the main entrance or the Wattis Hall entrance for all of the meetings. Please be prepared to show your membership card once again at the auditorium door.

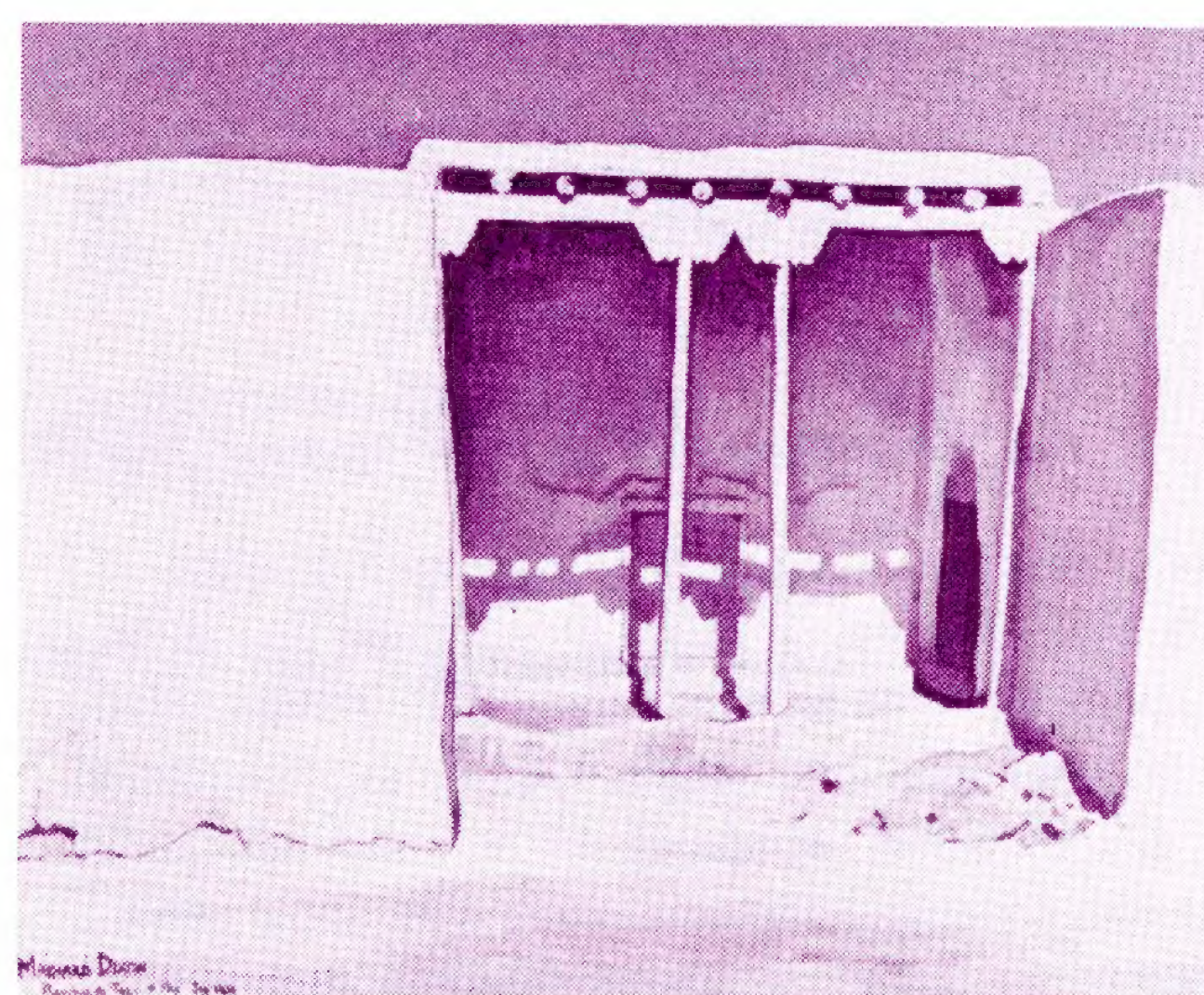
Sneak Preview:

At next month's members' meetings, on September 9 and 10, David Cavagnaro will speak on **Spring Comes to Alaska**.

The Academy is pleased to bring such interesting programs free of charge to its members and we regret the fact that some areas seem to receive their mail later than others. Please remember that the monthly members' meetings **always** take place the second Wednesday and Thursday of the month and **always** at the same times: 2:30 and 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, and 8:00 p.m. on Thursday. If you are receiving your "Newsletter" continually after the first of the month, please ask your post office for a customer service form and make your complaint known!

Special Exhibits

Mouth-watering photos of local produce, farm animals, Joe Carcione (on tape), and a game you can play, tell the story of our **Endangered Harvest**, a problem every Bay Area resident should know about. The exhibit was designed by Beth Merrick of the Oakland Museum and is based on research of the *People for Open Space Farmlands Conservation Project*. August 10 through October 31 in Lower Cowell Hall Gallery.



The most comprehensive and beautiful collection of the works of Western artist Maynard Dixon continues in the Patricia Price Peterson and Atholl McBean Galleries. This exhibit entitled **MAYNARD DIXON: Images of the Native American** includes 119 paintings and sketches mostly from the years between 1900 and 1940, and an audio-

visual program which examines the life of the artist.

A 96-page slipcased and hardbound exhibition catalogue with over 40 color plates is for sale at \$20.00, and a special exhibition poster entitled "The Wise Men" is available for \$6.00. Both are available at the Nature Company Museum Shop at the Academy. Members will receive their usual 10% discount.

Other continuing exhibits are **Exploring the Deep Frontier: The Adventure of Man in the Sea**, through September 7, and **The Fishing Fleet: Changing Times, Changing Faces** through September 20.

Morrison Planetarium

There is a new frontier called outer space and through manned and unmanned space-probes such as Apollo, Viking, and Voyager we have begun to explore this vast, untamed High Frontier. How will we eventually make use of it? It offers us energy, raw materials, and places to live — things that are becoming less and less available on our own world. **Islands in the Sky** the Planetarium sky show, looks at some of the suggested ways that are within our grasp to utilize the resources of the moon, the asteroids, and the other planets of the solar system — and then it goes beyond! Performances of **Islands in the Sky** are everyday at 12:30, 2:00, and 3:30 p.m., extra shows on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and holidays at 11:00 a.m., and Wednesday and Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m.

Exploring the Skies of the Season describes "what's up" in the current night sky over San Francisco. Performances are on Saturday and Sunday at 11:00 a.m. Please use your planetarium passes for free admission to both of these shows.

Light Shows

Laser animation, incandescent special effects, multi-media projections, and a variety of music, all combine to dazzle the mind and the eye in the three presentations produced by Eye See the Light Show, Inc. at the Morrison Planetarium.

Showtimes:

Lights Fantastic - classical, jazz, rock, and electronic music.

Friday and Saturday at 5:00 and 7:30 p.m.

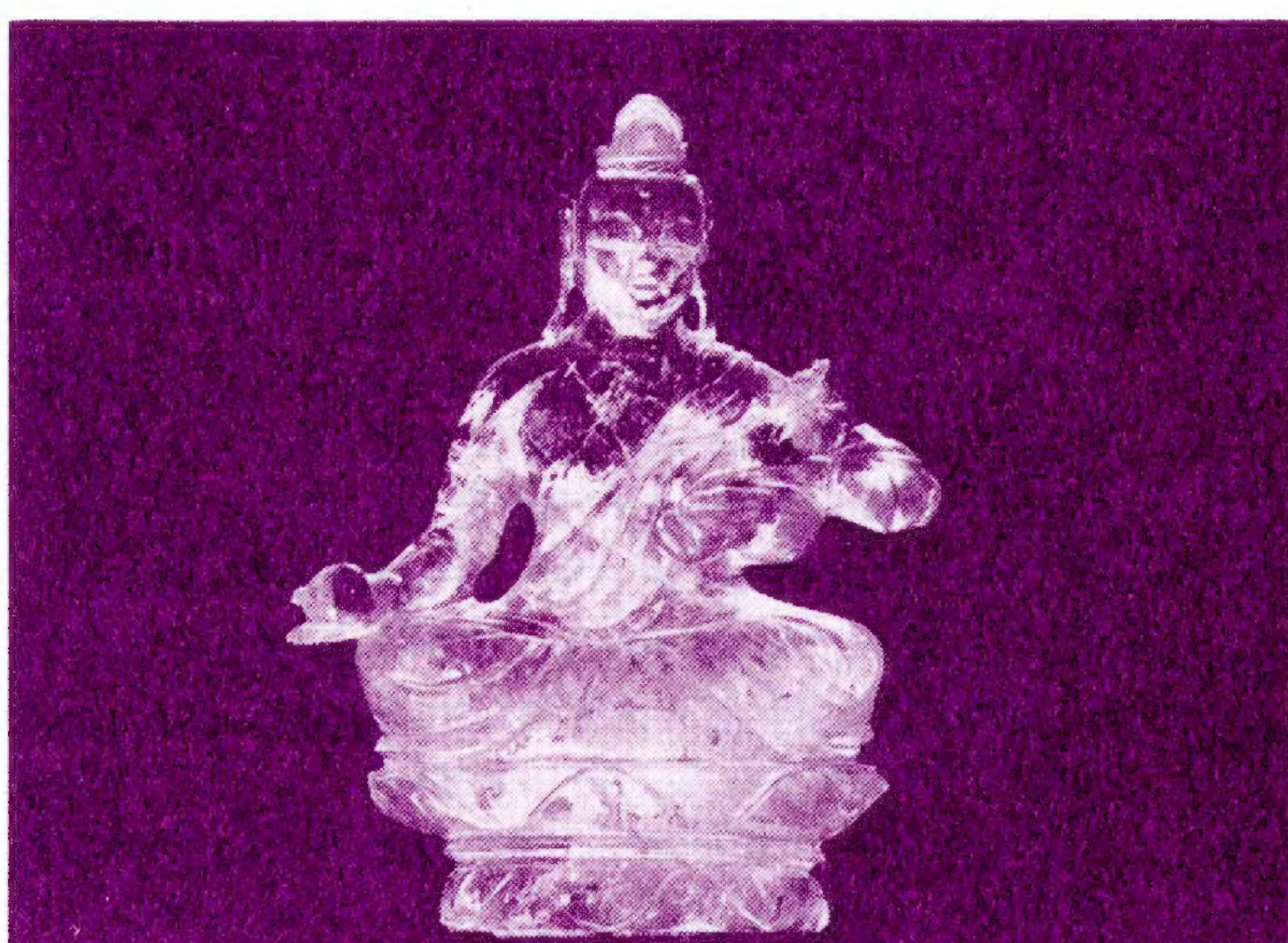
Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday at 5:00 p.m.

Rock Fantasy - Pink Floyd, Jefferson Starship, Yes, and more.
Thursday at 10:30 p.m.
Friday and Saturday at 9:00 and 10:30 p.m.
Sunday at 7:30 p.m.

Spotlight: Journey - one of the most exciting rock groups today. Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday at 9:00 p.m.

For more information, call 387-6300. Tickets are available through BASS at 835-3849. Admission is \$3.75 for adults and \$1.75 for seniors (65 and over) and children under 10.

Members are reminded that this is **not** a regular planetarium show, so your complimentary passes are **not** usable for this attraction.



Carving of Beryl (3½ inches high)

A Gem of a Show at The Hall of Flowers...

The Academy will be a guest exhibitor at the *Golden Gateway to Gems*, to be presented by the San Francisco Gem and Mineral Society on Saturday and Sunday, August 29 and 30 at the Hall of Flowers in Golden Gate Park. (Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.)

Gemstone carvings will be featured, along with mineral, jewellery, and lapidary exhibits. Live demonstrations of gold and silversmithing, faceting and gemstone carving will continue all weekend. The Academy plans several displays of beryl and opal carvings, and some of our most outstanding mineral specimens.

Academy members will be allowed a discount of 50¢ off the admission price of \$2.00. Just show your membership card at the door.

An Open Letter to Academy Members

It is gratifying to note that there has been an unprecedented outpouring of support from the Academy's members in our special campaign to match a Challenge Grant of \$400,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts on a 3 to 1 basis.

By early July more than 1200 members contributed a total of nearly \$65,000. Additional gifts of \$10,000 each from the Wells Fargo Foundation and the Hearst Foundation brought the total for the special campaign to approximately \$85,000.

All of us at the Academy express sincere thanks to the members for their outstanding generosity.

Sincerely,

Rudolph A. Peterson
Chairman of the Board of Trustees

Education and Travel

Travel to Redwood Country!
Friday, August 7 - Sunday, August 9

A primeval forest with its full complement of wonders can be found just four hours north of San Francisco in the Nature Conservancy's Coast Range Preserve. On Friday and Saturday, Academy botanist Dr. Frank Almeda will lead us on an exploration of the flora and fauna of this pristine watershed. On Sunday, it's "all aboard!" the famous Skunk Train for a memorable excursion through the magnificent redwoods.

Cost:

\$145, double occupancy

\$165, single occupancy

Cost includes transportation by air-conditioned chartered bus, accommodations, two box lunches, and Skunk Train tickets.



Ancient Aegean Civilizations

From the Bronze Age to Byzantium
September 1 - 14

George and Gerry Lindsay will lead Academy members to view the architectural and artistic wonders of the "Ancient World" as they cruise aboard the *Regina Maris* to Greece, the Greek Islands, and Turkey. This trip is co-sponsored with the Harvard and Yale Alumni Associations. For information, call the Academy Travel Office at (415) 221-5100.

National Parks II

September 12 - 20

Mr. Charles Chesterman will lead members on a geological exploration of several of our national parks. Geologic history will be easily viewed and understood in the settings of Bryce Canyon National Park, Zion National Park and the Grand Canyon. For information, please call Gulliver's Travels at (415) 346-4400.

Darwin's Galapagos

October 28 - November 10

Participants will cruise in comfort aboard the *M.V. Santa Cruz* as they explore those "living laboratories of evolution" known as the Galapagos Islands. Costs range from \$2100 - \$3400 for the cruise. Air fare is currently \$863. For information, please call the Academy Travel Office at (415) 221-5100.



BAJA EXPLORADOR

Baja California Overland

November 7 - 14

Sea of Cortez Cruise

November 14 - 21

Botanist Annetta Carter will lead one of our most popular tours south of the border to beautiful Baja California. Members will travel by bus as they explore the fascinating history and natural history of the Peninsula. A 6-day cruise aboard the *Baja Explorador* through the southern islands of the Sea of Cortez is offered as an extension. Cost is \$695 for the Overland portion with air fare at \$226. The cruise is \$879 with current air fare at \$216. For information, please call the Academy Travel Office at (415) 221-5100.

Coral Seas Cruising Expedition

November 15 - December 13

Dr. John McCosker will lead members on a spectacular cruise aboard the *Lindblad Explorer* to Australia's Great Barrier Reef. This trip is co-sponsored with the Oceanic Society. Costs range from \$4910 to \$8130 for the cruise. Air is \$2093 at current G.I.T. rates. For information, call the Academy Travel Office at (415) 221-5100.

Land of the Maya

January 9 - 26

Ancient Mayan ruins will be the focus of this archaeological exploration of Yucatan and Chiapas. Dr. Dorothy Washburn will lead members to Uxmal, Chichen Itza, Tulum, Palenque, and more. Some time will be spent in the lovely beach resort of Cancun and in the highlands of Chiapas at San Cristobal de las Casas. Optional extensions to Oaxaca and Mexico City are available. For information, call the Academy Travel Office at (415) 221-5100.

Baja California Circumnavigated

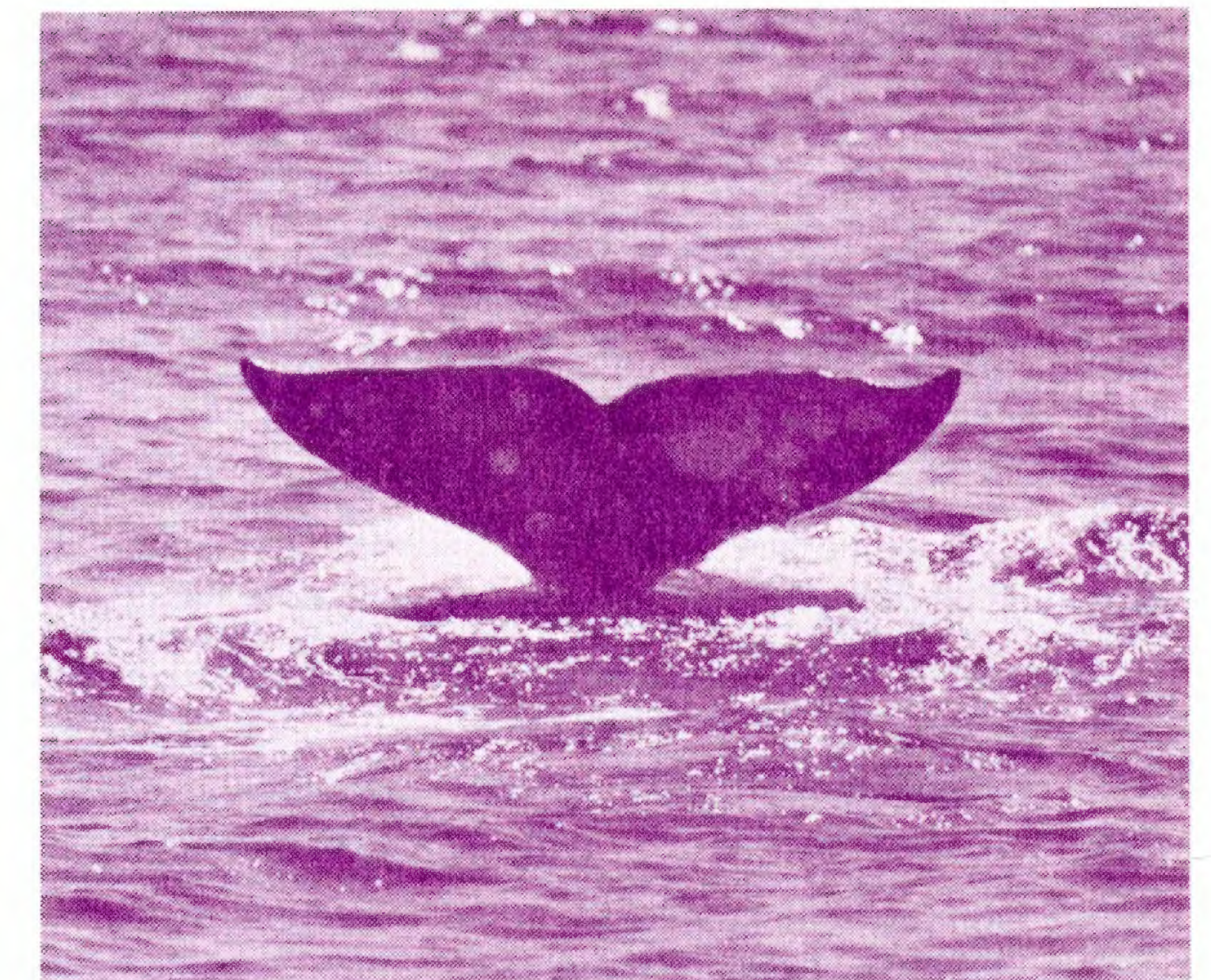
January 23 - February 6

Join fellow Academy members and Dr. John McCosker on our second annual cruise aboard the *M.V. Northwest Explorer* around the Baja California Peninsula. Herds of elephant seals and the whale lagoons of the west coast, and the birds, fishes and bizarre plants of the Sea of Cortez are but a few of the highlights of this special cruise. Costs range from \$2520 - \$3500. For information, call the Academy Travel Office at (415) 221-5100.

Sailing the Caribbean

February 4 - 15

Dr. Sylvia Earle will lead a tour to the exotic Leeward and Windward Island chain in the Caribbean. Sailing aboard the luxurious square-rigged tall ship, the *Sea Cloud* to Antigua, St. Lucia, Bequia, Mustique, Tobago Cays, and Iles des Saintes, members will discover the lush beauty, colorful towns, and remote sea coves ideal for snorkeling, in this lovely island chain. This trip is co-sponsored with the Stanford Alumni Association. For information, call the Academy Travel Office at (415) 221-5100.



A FLUKE SHOT! Baja, California

Baja California Gray Whale Expedition

February 4 - 12

This 9-day cruise along the west coast of Baja California follows the migration of the California gray whales. Passengers aboard the *Qualifier 105* will visit the San Benitos Islands, San Ignacio Lagoon, Cedros Island, and San Martin Island. There will be numerous opportunities to photograph and observe the abundant wildlife of the area. For information, please call Nature Expeditions International at (415) 494-6572

New Members

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Mr. & Mrs. Peter Avenali
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Ms. Pamela Fry
Ms. Gaye V. Gede
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 Mr. Jim Bauerlein
 Ms. Patricia P. Beckman
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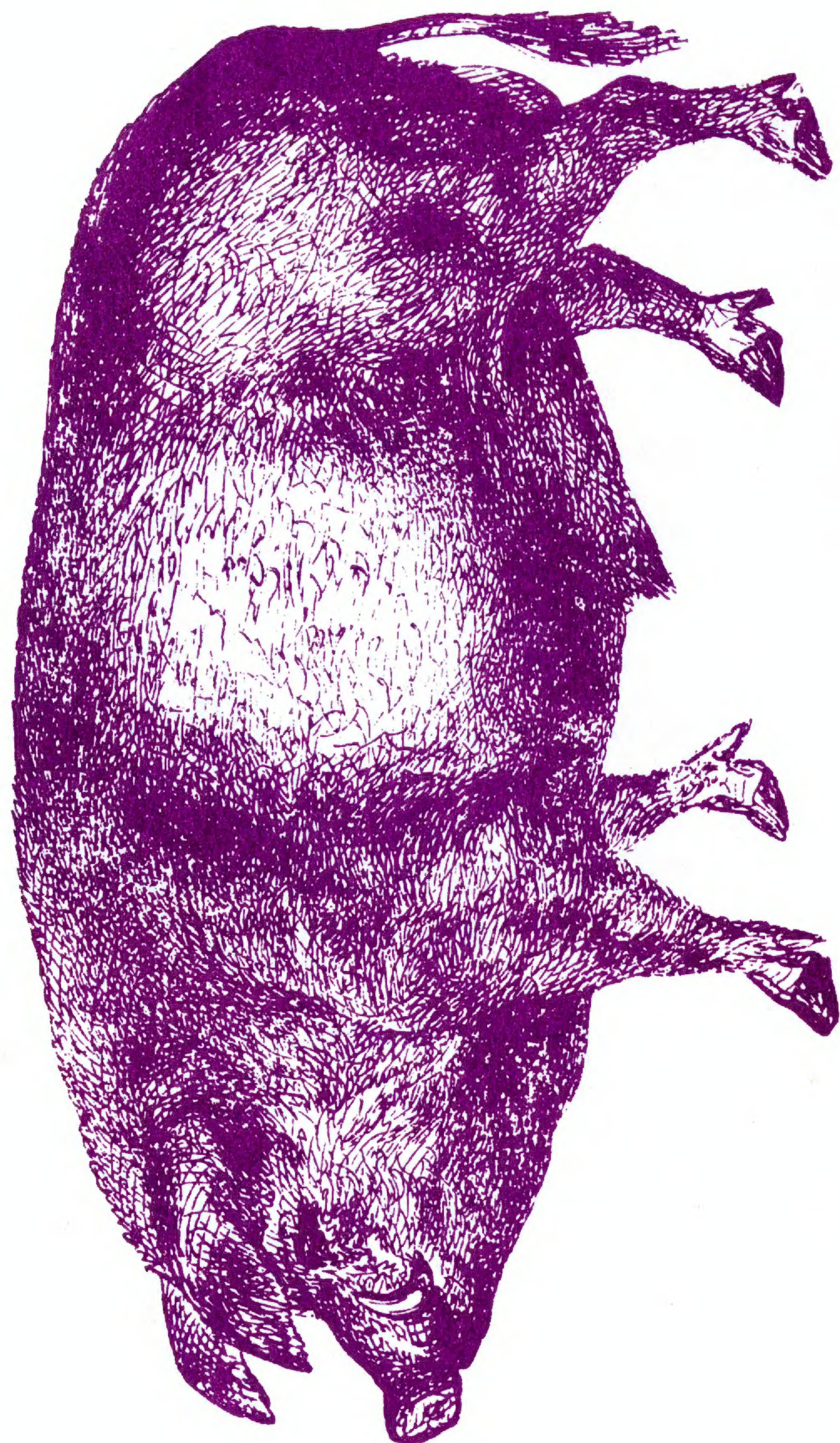
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No. 500



California
 Academy of
 Sciences



California
 Academy
 of Sciences
 Newsletter
 August, 1981

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Members are reminded that the Academy
 is open every day from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m.
 through September 7 (Labor Day).